

ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

A DC fan, or lot of DC fans is characterized at a constant voltage to determine the variation of their rotational speed with respect to altitude. Many such DC fans will have a substantially linear response in speed with respect to altitude. From this relationship, a converter is constructed to convert the rotational speed into an altitude. The converter may be a discrete electronic device including a look up table or capable of performing the arithmetic algorithm representing the relationship between fan speed and altitude.

Alternatively, the converter may be incorporated into the system to be cooled by the DC fan. For example, it may be a software routine run by the computer that the DC fan is used to cool.